

STATEMENT OF

MR. ROY A. WALLACE
DIRECTOR
PLANS AND RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G-1

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT,
FINANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HOUSE GOVERNMENT REFORM COMMITTEE

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON

THE PROCESS OF TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FOR
MOBILIZED NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS

MARCH 16, 2005

Chairman Platts, distinguished members of the Subcommittee:

My name is Roy Wallace, and I am the Director of Plans and Resources in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, and Department of the Army. Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you this afternoon to discuss our role in travel reimbursement for the Army's mobilized National Guard.

My office shares responsibility for policy formulation for travel and transportation allowances for all Active, United States Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers. In partnership with the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller) and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service we develop policy to ensure Soldiers receive pay and entitlements commensurate with their status and mission. Our policy objectives are focused on providing Soldiers all entitlements authorized in legislation, Department of Defense Financial Management Regulations, Department of Defense Instructions and Army Regulations.

To meet the challenge of having Soldiers move rapidly around the globe, the Army has placed a great deal of emphasis on developing travel and transportation policies that address the unique environment our Soldiers experience in fighting the Global War on Terrorism. Army National Guard and United States Army Reserve Soldiers are an integral part of the United States Army. When mobilized or activated for full time duty, they receive the same pay, allowances, entitlements and privileges as active duty Soldiers of the same rank and time in service.

We recognize that unique circumstances call for innovative solutions that must be tailored to fit the current environment. As situations develop and mature we strive to make policy that is both flexible and efficient to meet the needs of our Soldiers. Good policy can be ineffective if Soldiers and agencies are not aware that the policy exists, so we strive to educate not only those charged with

implementing policy but also the individual Soldier so they know what to expect and what actions to take to ensure they receive timely support. Policy is provided to all Soldiers through the Personnel Policy Guidance issued for contingency operations to include Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and Noble Eagle. All Soldiers processing through mobilization and demobilization sites receive briefings and instructions concerning their finance entitlements and what is required to ensure they receive accurate and timely pay support.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the subcommittee, the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 is fully committed to working as a team with our partners in ensuring Soldiers receive clear and concise policy guidance resulting in accurate and timely travel payments.